

Remarks

Claims 1-5 and 7-11 are currently pending.

35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 7-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 00/43455. Applicants traverse this rejection for the following reasons.

Applicants submit the Declaration of Roentgen which provides comparative data between the dye mixture of Example 28 in WO 00/43455, the closest prior art, and a corresponding dye mixture (A) according to the present invention. In particular, Example 28 of WO 00/43455 contained:

80% by weight of the dye of formula (IV-1)

8% by weight of the dye of formula (103) and

12% by weight of the dye of formula (VI-1).

In comparison, dye mixture (A) according to the present invention contained:

80% by weight of the dye of formula (102)

8% by weight of the dye of formula (103)

12% by weight of the dye of formula (VI-I).

Thus, the only difference between the dye mixture of Example 28 of WO 00/43455 and dye mixture (A) is the terminal naphthalene moiety on the dye of formula (IV-I) as compared to a terminal phenyl moiety on the dye of formula (102).

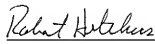
As demonstrated in Table 1 of the Declaration, the fastness to water of the dyeings using the dye mixture according to the present invention were at least one grade better than the dyeings using the dye mixture of the closest prior art. WO 00/43455

neither teaches nor suggests such a surprising and completely unexpected result. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections based on WO 00/43455 be withdrawn.

Should any fee be due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to deduct said fee from Huntsman Corporation Deposit Account No. 08-3442.

Respectfully Submitted,

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